



2621

Atty. Dkt. No. 016907/1313

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Haruko KAWAKAMI et al.
Title: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS
Appl. No.: 09/973,043
Filing Date: October 10, 2001
Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: 2621

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

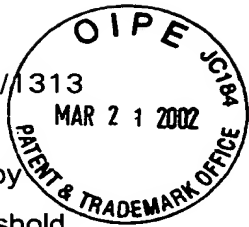
Submitted herewith on PTO Form SB/08B is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of the first official action, no fee is required in connection with its filing.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

Document A3 discloses a method of color image reproduction in which clipping gamut is based on limitation of luminance.



Document A4 discloses a method of division of binary image and other image by comparing the differences between max level and min level in a small area with a threshold.

Document A5 describes a Gamma-Compression Gamut Mapping Algorithm, which is based on the concept of Image-to-Device, by coupling with hue-leaf division and image gradation scaling.

English translations of documents A3-A5 are not readily available; however, English language abstracts are provided. The absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

3/21/02

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

Application Number 09/973,043
Filing Date 10/10/2001
First Named Inventor Haruko Kawakami
Group Art Unit 2621
Examiner Name Unassigned
Attorney Docket Number 016907-1313

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	5,136,401		Yamamoto et al.	8/4/1992	
	A2	4,547,811		Ochi et al.	10/15/1985	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	A3	JP	7-298073			11/10/1995		X
	A4	JP	58-3374			1/10/1983		X

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶
	A5	The Journal of The Institute of Image Electronics Engineers of Japan, Vol. 29, No. 5; Chan. Hung-Shing et al.; October 2000	X

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Examiner Signature

Date Considered

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, D.C. 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.